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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR. 16 Apr 1953

SUBJECT Use of TNT at Explosives Plant; Production and Use of Ammonium Chloride

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Ammonium chloride was only a by-product at Chorzow, the chief product was sodium carbonate.

The basic reason for the use of ammonium chloride as a fertilizer in Poland is the general shortage of fertilizers in that country. Under normal conditions, ammonium chloride would probably not have been considered for such a purpose. In view of the excess of hydrochloric acid at Chorzow and of the fact that ammonium chloride is produced cheaper than the common fertilizers, production was undertaken at Chorzow. Ammonium chloride was used in southern Poland where-- at least in some areas--the soil is rich in lime and other basic compounds. Where these conditions are not given, ammonium chloride cannot be used as a fertilizer because it would destroy the productivity of the soil within a relatively short period of time.

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Krupski Mlyn did not produce TNT in 1949, nor were there any plans for the production of TNT at the plant. TNT was shipped to the factory in metal drums. The TNT was in crystalline form and had to be melted before use. After melting, it was poured into the mixer and used mostly for the production of dynamite. [redacted] what plant Krupski Mlyn obtained the TNT. Toluol was not nitrated at Krupski Mlyn in 1949, to the best of my knowledge.

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